

2014 Homestead Community Garden Rules and Regulations

Application Process

- Community Garden applications will be available beginning **Tuesday, February 18, 2014**. Deadline for submitting applications is **Friday, March 14, 2014**.
 - Pick up an application at the Heritage Center or Education Center, 7 days a week from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.,
 - Download one from <http://www.nps.gov/home/parknews/community-garden.htm>
 - Request one be mailed to you by calling (402) 223-3514.
- There is **no fee** for a community garden plot.
- Applicants must fill out one application per plot requested. Plots will be assigned to persons **18 years or older**, with a maximum of **2 plots per address**.
- Plots are assigned through a random lottery. Applicants will be notified of assignments by phone and mail starting **March 15, 2014**.
 - In the event that there are more applicants than available plots, applicants not selected in the lottery will be placed on a waiting list and contacted if a plot becomes available.
 - If for any reason you change your mind after having accepted your plot assignment, please contact the Monument at (402) 223-3514 so the plot can be reassigned.

Working on Your Garden Plot

- Work may begin in the garden as soon as you accept the plot assignment, unless for some reason weather conditions have delayed preparation of the garden area. All plots must be under cultivation by **May 16, 2014**. Any plot that has not been worked on by this date will be reassigned to an applicant on the waiting list.
- Gardeners can work on their plots at any time when the Monument grounds are open to the public which is **DAILY** from dawn to dusk.
- Gardeners must maintain their assigned plot and the aisles adjacent to their plot in a satisfactory manner. Watering, weeding, harvesting, and any other garden related maintenance are all the responsibility of the gardener. National Park Service staff will inspect the garden periodically to ensure that it is aesthetically and environmentally sound. **Failure to maintain a plot will result in a gardener's loss of gardening privileges, and their plot will be reassigned.**
- Water will be available in the community garden free of charge. When using the Monument's water, gardeners must monitor it all at times and be diligent in shutting the

water off after their use. **Failure to monitor water use may result in loss of water for all gardeners.**

- Be respectful of your fellow gardeners.
 - Tall crops (such as sunflowers and corn), structures, trees, etc. should not be planted to shade another plot.
 - Gardeners may only harvest vegetables and flowers from their garden plot.
 - Gardeners are expected to communicate with neighboring gardeners to work out weed issues, size of plant issues, etc.
- Although the Monument agrees to provide a reasonable degree of care and protection, the National Park Service assumes **no responsibility for any loss resulting from theft, animal damage, adverse weather, vandalism or any other cause.**
- Parents are encouraged to bring children to the garden and introduce them to the wonders of gardening. Please monitor their behavior and whereabouts at all times.

Prohibited Activities/Items

- **Pesticides**
- Plastic construction fencing
- Vehicles (off of established roadways and parking lots)
- **Non-biodegradable coverings** (only plain colored-paper and cardboard are allowed within the plots, no rugs or plastic sheeting can be used)
- **Metal** rods or steel bars/weights, with the exception of metal tomato cages
- Pets

End of Season Information

The garden will officially close on **November 3, 2014**. All stakes, poles, and plant material must be removed by this date.

If your plot is not completely clear of all coverings and other items after the closing date, a plot for the following year may be denied.

Enjoy your gardening experience!